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PAGE 01

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7719

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 09 KARUL 02308

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAF, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20  
1987)

REF: KARUL 2301

1. FOR ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISX?TO DRAW  
ON THE FOLLOWING IN BRIEFING PRESS.
2. (U) SUMMARY: SOVIET MEDIA, DECEMBER 19, ANNOUNCED  
THE LAUNCHING OF A MAJOR REGIME OFFENSIVE AIMED AT  
LIFTING THE MUJAHIDIN SIEGE AT KHOST. BY PORTRAYING THE  
OFFENSIVE AS A REGIME UNDERTAKING, THE SOVIETS APPEAR TO  
BE PUTTING THE RA MILITARY TO A PUBLIC TEST. IN  
REALITY, SOVIET FORCES ARE AND HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE  
BATTLE FOR KHOST FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. A KEY QUESTION IS  
WHETHER MUJAHIDIN DEPLOYED IN THE AREA WILL MAINTAIN  
THEIR SIEGE OR MELT AWAY IN THE FACE OF SUPERIOR SOVIET  
AND REGIME FORCES. SHOULD A PROTRACTED STRUGGLE FOR  
KHOST DEVELOP, ITS OUTCOME COULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT  
POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY CONSEQUENCES. MEANWHILE,  
MUJAHIDIN IN THE KARUL AREA INCREASED EFFORTS IN THE  
CAPITAL WITH A HIGHLY DESTRUCTIVE ROCKET ATTACK ON THE  
SOUTHEASTERN PART OF THE CITY AS WELL AS THROUGH  
BOMBINGS. ALTHOUGH DECLARED A "PEACE ZONE" BY THE  
REGIME, CHAHR ASIAR, 20 KMS SOUTH OF KARUL, WAS THE  
SCENE OF INTENSE FIGHTING. MUJAHIDIN THERE HAVE BEEN  
HARASSING CONVOYS MOVING BETWEEN KARUL AND GARDEZ. IN  
KANDAHAR PROVINCE, THE REGIME'S ALLIANCE WITH THE  
MUJAHIDIN TURNCOAT ESMATULLAH MUSLIM APPEARS TO BE  
UNRAVELLING. MUSLIM'S FORCES REPORTEDLY HAVE RETAINED  
CONTROL OF THE IMPORTANT ROAD CONNECTING KANDAHAR CITY  
WITH THE PAKISTAN BORDER. THEY HAVE KIDNAPPED REGIME  
OFFICIALS AND NOT BLOCKED THE MUJAHIDIN'S ANNIHILATION OF  
A REGIME DETACHMENT. REPORTS APPEAR TO CONFIRM A MAJOR  
MUJAHIDIN VICTORY IN MAIMANA, PROVINCIAL CENTER IN  
FARYAR. OTHER FIGHTING IS REPORTED IN PARWAN, GHAZNI  
AND WARDAK. IN APPARENT REACTION TO INCREASING PRESSURE  
ON ITS UNDERMANNED MILITARY, THE REGIME HAS RESORTED TO  
MORE VIGOROUS PRESS GANG OPERATIONS. REGIME ACTIONS ARE  
PROMPTING PROTEST. A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ASSESSES THE  
STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN AFGHANISTAN IS DETERIORATING.

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 09 KARUL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANDS: PARIS ALSO FOR  
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FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 14/DEC/93

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20)

ARMS FIRE WAS HEARD IN THE CITY FREQUENTLY DURING THE  
WEEK. SOURCES ALSO REPORT ROCKETS IMPACTING IN THE CITY  
ON FOUR OCCASIONS AND ONE CAR BOMB DETONATION. POWER  
BLACKOUTS CONTINUED TO PLAGUE THE CITY WITH DAILY OUTAGES  
LASTING SEVERAL HOURS AFFECTING VIRTUALLY ALL PARTS OF  
THE CITY AT VARIOUS TIMES. THE ENTIRE CITY WAS BLACKED  
OUT FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES, DECEMBER 17. (SEE  
PARA 40 FOR REPORT OF MUJAHIDIN ATTACK ON ELECTRIC  
FACILITIES EAST OF KARUL.) SOURCES REPORTED THE  
FOLLOWING MAJOR INCIDENTS:

-- DECEMBER 20: SMALL ARMS FIRE FOLLOWED AN EXPLOSION IN  
THE SHARE NAU AREA AT 0415. SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS AGAIN  
HEARD IN THE SHERPUR AREA AT 0745. AT APPROXIMATELY  
1500, A BOMB EXPLODED IN THE COMMERCIAL AREA NEAR BLUE  
MOSQUE IN SHARE NAU. IT DESTROYED FOUR SMALL SHOPS AND  
REPORTEDLY KILLED SIX. REGIME SECURITY FORCES FOUND AND  
DEFUSED ANOTHER BOMB IN THE SAME AREA SEVERAL HOURS  
EARLIER.

-- DECEMBER 19: DIPLOMATS REPORTED SIX TO EIGHT LARGE  
EXPLOSIONS FROM SOUTHERN KARUL AROUND 1620, FOLLOWED BY  
OUTGOING ARTILLERY. THE EXPLOSIONS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN  
INCOMING ROCKETS.

-- DECEMBER 18: DURING THE EVENING, AN AFGHAN SOURCE  
REPORTED PERIODIC SMALL ARMS FIRE BETWEEN THE KABUL  
AIRPORT AND KHAIR KHANA. (SEE ABOVE FOR DESCRIPTION OF  
ROCKET ATTACK ON SOUTHEAST KARUL.)

-- DECEMBER 17: TWO ROCKETS, LAUNCHED FROM PAGHMAN,  
STRUCK SOUTH KARUL AT APPROXIMATELY 0600. DIPLOMATS  
REPORTED SHOOTING NEAR THE AMANI HIGH SCHOOL, 500 METERS  
FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY, IN THE EARLY MORNING.  
SEARCHLIGHTS PLAYED ACROSS NORTHERN KABUL DURING AND  
AFTER A TOTAL CITY BLACKOUT (2250-2305) REPORTED ABOVE.  
A DIPLOMAT REPORTED 5-6 EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY INCOMING  
ROCKETS, IN SOUTH KABUL BETWEEN 2220 AND 2240.

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-- DECEMBER 16: BURSTS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE WERE HEARD  
NEAR THE AMANI HIGH SCHOOL AT 1830.

-- DECEMBER 15: A RELIABLE AFGHAN CLAIMS A CAR BOMB  
DETONATED IN KARTE PARWAN BETWEEN 1400 AND 1500. A  
DIPLOMAT HEARD THREE EXPLOSIONS, POSSIBLY CAUSED BY  
IMPACTING ROCKETS, AT 1428. BURSTS OF SMALL ARMS FIRE  
WERE HEARD NEAR THE AMANI HIGH SCHOOL AT 1930.

-- DECEMBER 14: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED SMALL ARMS  
FIRE INSIDE THE SOVIET MILITARY HOSPITAL COMPOUND AT 1910

4. (U) KABUL PROVINCE: MUJAHIDIN MAINTAINED PRESSURE  
ON THE CAPITAL WHILE KABUL-BASED RA UNITS DEPLOYED SOUTH  
IN AN ATTEMPT TO LIFT THE MUJAHIDIN SIEGE AT KHOST (SEE  
PARA 5). THE DECEMBER 17 ROCKET ATTACK ON THE SOUTHERN  
DISTRICTS OF THE CITY, AND FIGHTING SOUTH OF THE CITY,  
INDICATED A GROWING MUJAHIDIN THREAT TO THE LOGAR ROAD.  
THE ROUTE IS VITAL TO SOVIET/RA EFFORTS TO LIFT THE KHOST  
SIEGE. DIPLOMATS REPORTED OUTGOING ARTILLERY FIRE AND  
INTENSE SMALL ARMS FIRE DURING THE MORNING AND MID-DAY,  
DECEMBER 18, AT KARGHA, WEST OF KABUL. TO THE NORTH,  
INTENSE FIGHTING CONTINUES WITH REPORTS OF SOVIET/RA  
DESTRUCTION OF CIVILIAN HOUSING IN VARIOUS SHOMALI

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RUFCAAA/CINCSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHHQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

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E.O. 12354: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
 TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAF, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
 ASEC, UR, AF  
 SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20

TOWNS. MUJAHIDIN ARE REPORTED TO HAVE INCREASED ATTACKS  
 ON POWER FACILITIES WHICH PROVIDE ELECTRICITY FOR KARUL.

A. KABUL - SOUTH: MUJAHIDIN ROCKET ATTACK ON THE  
 CAPITAL'S SOUTHERN DISTRICTS, DECEMBER 17 (SEE PARA 7)  
 CAME IN CONJUNCTION WITH ESCALATING FIGHTING IN THE CHAHR  
 ASIAB - RISHKHOR - KOH-I-SAFED AREA, APPROXIMATELY 12 KMS  
 SOUTH OF THE CAPITAL. (IRONICALLY, KABUL MEDIA ANNOUNCED  
 DECEMBER 18, THAT CHAHR ASIAB HAD BEEN DECLARED A "PEACE  
 ZONE".) AFGHAN AND DIPLOMATIC SOURCES REPORTED HEAVY  
 FIGHTING SOUTH OF KABUL BETWEEN 1600 AND 1800, DECEMBER

19. A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE DESCRIBED THE COMBAT,  
 AUDIBLE IN KABUL, AS INCLUDING HEAVY ARTILLERY AND JET  
 STRIKES. DURING THE COMBAT, A SMALL OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT  
 CIRCLED HIGH OVERHEAD. (COMMENT: THE RESURGENCE OF  
 MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITY IN LOGAR AND SOUTHERN KARUL PROVINCE  
 FOLLOWS A MONTH-LONG SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN NOVEMBER TO ROOT  
 OUT THE MUJAHIDIN PRESENCE IN THE AREA. IN ADDITION TO  
 PUTTING DIRECT PRESSURE ON THE CAPITAL, THE MUJAHIDIN IN  
 THE CHAHR ASIAB - KOH-I-SAFED AREA, AS REPORTED  
 PREVIOUSLY, HAVE AMBUSHED SOVIET AND RA CONVOYS MOVING  
 BETWEEN KABUL AND THE KHOST-GARUEZ FIGHTING.)

B. KABUL - WEST: DIPLOMATS AT KARGHA LAKE ON DECEMBER  
 18 REPORTED INTERMITTENT PRE-DAWN SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM  
 VARIOUS POINTS WEST OF THE LAKE AND ARTILLERY FIRE TO THE  
 NORTH. DURING MID-MORNING, SOVIET GUN POSITIONS ON HILLS  
 ADJACENT TO THE LAKE FIRED GENERALLY TO THE WEST. AT  
 MID-DAY, SOME DIPLOMATS IN THE AREA RETURNED TO KABUL  
 AFTER INTENSE SMALL ARMS FIRE BROKE OUT AT VARIOUS POINTS  
 IN THE ROLLING PLAINS WEST OF THE LAKE. NEARER KARUL  
 CITY, AT QALA-I-SHODA, DECEMBER 15, AN AFGHAN REPORTED  
 THAT A MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY OFFICIAL (KHAD) WAS  
 ASSASSINATED.

C. KABUL - NORTH: RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCES REPORT HEAVY  
 FIGHTING IN SHAKA DARA, QARABAGH AND GULDARA. IN THE  
 QARABAGH AREA, SOVIET TANKS REPORTEDLY FIRED AT HOUSES.

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CAUSING MUCH DESTRUCTION AND REFUGEE FLIGHT. SOVIET AND RA FORCES ALSO EMPLOYED ARTILLERY BUT HAVE NOT BOMBARDED THE AREA FROM THE AIR. A SINGLE AFGHAN REPORTS CHRONIC LOW-INTENSITY FIGHTING BETWEEN THE KHAIR KHANA PASS (THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE TO KABUL) AND QAREZ-I-MIR, 12 KMS NORTH OF THE CITY. APPEARING TO CONFIRM THE INCREASED FIGHTING NORTH OF THE CITY, DIPLOMATS HAVE OBSERVED SOVIET MI-8'S AND MI-24'S DEPARTING DAILY IN EARLY MORNING TO THE NORTH AND NORTHWEST. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTED THREE SOVIETS WERE KILLED IN THE SHAKA DARA AREA, DECEMBER 8. AN AFGHAN REPORTED THAT MUJAHIDIN IN THE FARZA AREA CONTINUE TO FIGHT AMONG THEMSELVES AND THAT THE ROAD CONNECTING FARZA WITH THE SALANG HIGHWAY HAS BEEN CLOSED BY THE FIGHTING.

4. KABUL - EAST: A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE CLAIMED THAT RECENT POWER OUTAGES IN KABUL ARE IN PART DUE TO MUJAHIDIN ATTACKS ON ELECTRIC PYLONS IN THE MAH-I-PAR AREA. ACCORDING TO THE AFGHAN, MUJAHIDIN IN THE AREA IN THE PAST, HAVE ACCEPTED MONEY FROM THE REGIME NOT TO ATTACK THE VULNERABLE PYLONS. MUJAHIDIN RECENTLY HAVE ENDED THIS PRACTICE, AND REPORTEDLY CONDUCTED OPERATIONS AGAINST PYLONS IN THE DECEMBER 15-17 PERIOD.

5. (U) PAKTIA: SOVIET MEDIA (BUT NOT RA MEDIA).

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MEDDAC RG ROTC SAO SFOG SOCLANT SOCOM SSD 5WS 16MP 17MI 18AVN 16CA FLF ----  
18FG 18ORD 19REP 20ENG 35SIG 82ABN 513MI 525MI 902MI ----

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RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAFE RAMSTEIN AR GE//INCO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 74 OF 09 KARUL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLAOS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
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TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SKEF.  
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SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20.

DECEMBER 19, ANNOUNCED THE LAUNCHING OF A MAJOR REGIME  
OFFENSIVE TO LIFT THE MUJAHIDIN SIEGE OF KHOST. AT THE  
RECENT LOYA JIRGA, NAJIBULLAH HAD GIVEN THE MUJAHIDIN  
UNTIL DECEMBER 19 TO LIFT THE SIEGE. SENIOR EAST BLOC  
DIPLOMATS HAD PREDICTED THE OFFENSIVE, HINTING AT "A BIG  
SURPRISE" IN STORE FOR THE MUJAHIDIN. RA SOURCES  
PRIVATELY CLAIM THAT THE OFFENSIVE IN FACT BEGAN ON  
DECEMBER 15. VARIOUS SOURCES HAVE REPORTED INTENSE  
FIGHTING IN THE AREA FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. RA SOURCES ALSO  
CLAIM THAT THREE REGIME DIVISIONS AND TWO SOVIET  
DIVISIONS HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED TO THE AREA. THE SAME  
SOURCES CLAIM THAT SOVIET AND REGIME FORCES ARE PITTED  
AGAINST 18,000 MUJAHIDIN. (THIS IS TWICE THE FIGURE THE  
SOVIETS HAVE CLAIMED PUBLICLY AND APPEARS HIGH.) RA  
SOURCES CLAIM FURTHER THAT DURING THE WEEK, MANY  
CASUALTIES FROM THE FIGHTING HAVE ARRIVED IN KARUL.  
DESPITE CONFLICTING CLAIMS, THERE HAS BEEN NO RECENT  
STEP-UP OF SOVIET OR RA DEPLOYMENTS OBSERVED DEPARTING  
FROM KARUL THIS WEEK, ALTHOUGH THE FLOW OF AMMUNITION,  
FUEL AND OTHER SUPPLIES CONTINUES SOUTH ON THE LOGAR  
ROAD. SOVIET SUKHOI-25 JETS, NOW BASED IN KARUL  
(REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THE BASING IMPROVES THEIR RANGE FOR  
OPERATIONS IN PAKTIA) WERE ONLY MODERATELY ACTIVE DURING  
THE WEEK. THE REGIME, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN EXPANDING  
EFFORTS OF LATE TO DRAGOON KARUL YOUTH INTO THE MILITARY  
(SEE HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS, PARA 9), PRESUMABLY TO  
AUGMENT REGIME RANKS FOR KHOST AND OTHER FIGHTING.  
(REFTEL REPORTED DRAGOONING OF MEN RELEASED FROM PRISON  
DIRECTLY INTO UNITS BOUND FOR THE FIGHTING IN PAKTIA,  
AMONG OTHER COMBAT AREAS.) A RELIABLE REPORT CLAIMS THAT  
THE SITUATION IN KHOST HAS WORSENEDED, WITH RESUPPLY TO THE  
CITY EVEN AT NIGHT NOW EITHER REDUCED OR SUSPENDED. ON  
DECEMBER 16, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE, A  
SOVIET CONVOY ATTEMPTING TO ADVANCE TOWARD KHOST FROM  
GARDEZ RAN INTO A MUJAHIDIN TRAP. MUJAHIDIN USED  
UNEXPLODED ROCKETS AS MINES DESTROYING TANKS AND OTHER  
ARMORED VEHICLES IN THE SATE KANDAW AREA. ON DECEMBER  
14, ACCORDING TO A SEPARATE RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE,  
TWO SOVIET HELICOPTERS PROVIDING AIR COVER FOR SOVIET/RA

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FORCES WERE DOWNED BY MUJAHIDIN NEAR KHOST. RESIDENTS ALSO COMPLAIN THAT THE REGIME HAS GROWN INCREASINGLY SUSPICIOUS OF BUSINESSMEN BECAUSE OF THEIR CONTACT WITH FIRMS ABROAD. REPORTEDLY, MANY KANDAHARI BUSINESSMEN ARE "FED UP" AND ARE MOVING OUT OF THE CITY TO KABUL. THE CITY'S OFFICIAL CURFEW IS 2100 TO 0400. ALTHOUGH RESIDENTS INFORMALLY OBSERVE A MUCH EARLIER CURFEW. SOURCES CLAIM THE KANDAHAR HOSPITALS ARE "FULL". SOME OF THE KABUL YOUTH BROUGHT TO KANDAHAR, ALLEGEDLY TO ASSIST IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE ARE BEING USED IN LOCAL INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING A COTTON FACTORY. IN A SEPARATE REPORT FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE, IN EARLY DECEMBER, TWO SOVIET UNITS DEPARTED POSITIONS NEAR THE ROAD IN THE SPIN BULDAK AREA. EACH WITH ABOUT 50 VEHICLES.

7. (U) PARWAN: ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 18, MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN AN RA BASE NEAR CHARKHAF. A SOVIET CONVOY MOVING NORTH NEAR CHARIKAR ON DECEMBER 11 HAD TO RETURN TO KABUL BECAUSE OF A MUJAHIDIN AMBUSH.

8. (U) FARYAH: DESPITE HAVING BEEN DECLARED A "PEACE PROVINCE" BY THE REGIME, COMBAT CONTINUES HEAVY IN FARYAH. KABUL SOURCES APPEAR TO CONFIRM WESTERN PRESS BT  
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DTTCZYUW RUEKJCS2348 3551028-CCCC--RUCLAKA.

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INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

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RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC//XO-CTC//

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7718

RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 4377

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 6191

INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUFHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1512

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2031

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC

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RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUP HEIDELBERG GE

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RUEOLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

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RUFNSHH/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDG/MR

REVIEWED by *John Kelley* DATE *4/28/87*0 ) RELEASE *1* ) DECLASSIFY

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( ) DENY ( ) Non-responsive info.

FOI, EO or PA exemptions

TS authority to:

( ) CLASSIFY to \_\_\_\_\_, OADR

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PAGE 01

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M2DEAC RG ROTC SAO SFOU SUCLANT SOCOM SSU SWS 16MP 17MI 19AVN 18CA FLE --  
18FG 18URD 19REP 20ENG 35SIG 824RN 513MI 5254I 902MI --

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RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2035  
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC  
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RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
RUFCAAAA/CINCSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
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RU00GHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//  
RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//  
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RUE DAYB/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IO/CMI//

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 05 OF 09 KARUL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANST PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO: DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. HRUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UP, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20).

ACCOUNTS OF A MAJOR MUJAHIDIN ATTACK ON MAIMANA. A  
DIPLOMATIC SOURCE REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED RA  
POSTS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY. WHILE A SEPARATE  
DIPLOMATIC ACCOUNT CLAIMS MUJAHIDIN, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP  
OF JAMIAT COMMANDER YAR MCHAMMED, ATTACKED A REGIME POST  
KILLING 14 AND WOUNDING 52 REGIME DEFENDERS. IN OTHER  
FIGHTING REPORTED IN THE PROVINCE, AT SHIRIN TAGAR  
(36°49'N 65°01'E) MUJAHIDIN DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF  
DECEMBER, ATTACKED A SOVIET POST DESTROYING ONE  
HELICOPTER AND FIVE TO SIX ARMORED VEHICLES. SOVIET  
CASUALTIES, REPORTEDLY, WERE HEAVY.  
RESIDENTS ALSO COMPLAIN THAT THE REGIME HAS GROWN  
INCREASINGLY SUSPICIOUS OF BUSINESSMEN BECAUSE OF THEIR  
CONTACT WITH FIRMS ABROAD. REPORTEDLY, MANY KANDAHARI  
BUSINESSMEN ARE "FED UP" AND ARE MOVING OUT OF THE CITY  
TO KARUL. THE CITY'S OFFICIAL CURFEW IS 2100 TO 0400.  
ALTHOUGH RESIDENTS, INFORMALLY, OBSERVE A MUCH EARLIER  
CURFEW. SOURCES CLAIM THE KANDAHAR HOSPITALS ARE  
"FULL". SOME OF THE KARUL YOUTH BROUGHT TO KANDAHAR,  
ALLEGEDLY TO ASSIST IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, ACCORDING  
TO ONE SOURCE ARE BEING USED IN LOCAL INDUSTRIES,  
INCLUDING A COTTON FACTORY. IN A SEPARATE REPORT FROM A  
RELIABLE SOURCE, IN EARLY DECEMBER, TWO SOVIET UNITS  
DEPARTED POSITIONS NEAR THE ROAD IN THE SPIN RULDAK AREA,  
EACH WITH ABOUT 50 VEHICLES.

7. (U) PARWAN: ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 18,  
MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN AN RA BASE NEAR CHARKHAR. A SOVIET  
CONVOY MOVING NORTH NEAR CHARIKAR ON DECEMBER 11 HAD TO  
RETURN TO KABUL BECAUSE OF A MUJAHIDIN RUSH.

8. (U) FARYAB: DESPITE HAVING BEEN DECLARED A "PEACE  
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FARYAB. KABUL SOURCES APPEAR TO CONFIRM WESTERN PRESS  
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REF ID: A66057

KILLING 18 AND WOUNDING 52 REGIME DEFENDERS. IN OTHER FIGHTING REPORTED IN THE PROVINCE, AT SHIRIN TAGAR (36°49'N 45°01'E) MUJAHIDIN DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF DECEMBER, ATTACKED A SOVIET POST DESTROYING ONE HELICOPTER AND FIVE TO SIX ARMORED VEHICLES. SOVIET CASUALTIES, REPORTEDLY, WERE HEAVY.

9. (U) GHAZNI: ACCORDING TO AN AFGHAN SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED REGIME AND SOVIET FORCES WHO WERE CONDUCTING A HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH FOR MUJAHIDIN WEAPONS AND SUPPORTERS AT TOUNGAN, DECEMBER 16. IN THE DAY-LONG FIGHTING, 25 SOVIET AND REGIME TROOPS WERE KILLED. MUJAHIDIN LOST THREE KILLED AND FOUR WOUNDED. AN AFGHAN REPORTS THAT MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A REGIME POST AT U-NUT, FIVE KMS FROM GHAZNI CITY. IN THE ROCKET ATTACK, ONE ARMORED VEHICLE AND ONE HEAVY GUN WERE DESTROYED. SIX REGIME TROOPS DIED IN THE ATTACK.

10. (U) BAGHLAN: AN AFGHAN WITH FAMILY IN BAGHLAN CONFIRMS EARLIER REPORTS OF EXTENSIVE DESTRUCTION IN AND AROUND BAGHLAN CITY AS A RESULT OF INTENSE SOVIET AIR AND ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT EARLIER IN THE FALL. OUTSIDE OF THE CITY, THE NORMALLY RICH RICE-PRODUCING AREA HAS BEEN DEVASTATED WITH FIELDS BOMBED, MINED AND LARGELY BT

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 MEDDAC RG ROTC SAO SFOL SOCLANT SOCOM SSO SWS IAMP 17MI 1RAVN 1RCA FLE ----  
 18FG 18URD 19REP 20ENG 35SIG 62AHN 513MI 525MI 902MI ----

OTTCZYU RUEKJCS2348 3551028-CCCC--RUCLAKA.  
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 FM JCS WASHINGTON DC  
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 RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//  
 RUEORDF/DIAFMIC FT DETRICK MD//IS//  
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 RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN0//  
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 RUOMNSC/MISC WASHINGTON DC  
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 RHCGSRB/COMUSARCENT FT MCPHERSON GA//AFRD-DS0//  
 RHMFBRB/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
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 RULWAAA/DIA REP SAC OFFUTT AFB NE  
 RUEALGX/SIFE  
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 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7723  
 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 4382  
 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 6196  
 INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE  
 RUHFMT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1517  
 RUEHIA/USTIA WASHDC 2036  
 RUEPJCS/DIA WASHDC  
 RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC  
 RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
 RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SR  
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUFGAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
 RHFGAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AR GE  
 RHFGAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AR GE//INCO  
 RUODGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//  
 RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//  
 RUEOLEA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP  
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 RUFNSSH/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 06 OF 09 KABUL 02344

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANDS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAP, MR. MRUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SPEC  
ASEC, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20).

DESTROYED BY SOVIET TANK MOVEMENT. THE LARGE-SCALE  
DEPOPULATION OF BAGHLAN DURING THE EARLIER SOVIET ATTACKS  
ON THE CITY PRECLUDES RESTORATION OF THE FIELDS IN THE  
NEAR FUTURE.

11. (U) WARDAK: A RELIABLE AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS A  
200-MAN MUJAHIDIN FORCE ATTACKED A MAJOR REGIME POSITION  
IN THE MAIDAN SHAHR AREA DECEMBER 1, INFLECTING 15 REGIME  
DEAD (INCLUDING THREE OFFICERS) AND CAPTURING OVER 50  
SMALL ARMS.

12. (U) JAUZJAN: A RECENT TRAVELLER FROM SHEHERGAN  
REPORTS THE SECURITY SITUATION TO BE STABLE UP TO SIX KMS  
FROM THE CITY. BEYOND THAT, CONTROL IS CONTESTED.

13. (U) KONAR: A LARGE RA COLUMN RETURNED TO THE KABUL  
AREA DECEMBER 15 AFTER COMPLETING OPERATIONS IN THE ASMAR  
AREA.

14. (U) HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS: PRESSURE TO EXPAND  
THE REGIME'S STANDING ARMED FORCES TO MEET THE CHALLENGE  
OF MUJAHIDIN MILITARY INITIATIVES IN PAKTIA, KANDAHAR,  
KABUL AND ELSEWHERE APPEARS TO HAVE PROMPTED THE REGIME  
TO EXPAND ITS PRESS GANG OPERATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN  
KABUL. FOLLOWING IMMEDIATE IMPRESSMENT OF MANY PRISONERS  
DIRECTLY FROM PRISON (REFTEL), THE REGIME APPEARS NOW TO  
BE TARGETING UNDER-AGE BOYS AND YOUNG MEN PREVIOUSLY  
PROTECTED BY TEMPORARY DEFERMENT. VETERINARY STUDENTS AT  
KABUL UNIVERSITY REPORTEDLY DEMONSTRATED, DECEMBER 15,  
AGAINST THE REGIME'S DRAFTING OF STUDENTS OUT OF THE  
CLASSROOM. ON DECEMBER 14, A DIPLOMAT WITNESSED WHAT  
APPEARED TO BE A DEMONSTRATION BY HIGH-SCHOOL AGE  
STUDENTS AGAINST THE RECENT INDUCTION OF UNDER-AGE YOUNG  
MEN. THE 100-150 YOUNG PEOPLE WERE FORCED ONTO TWO  
MILITARY BUSES BY ARMED GUARDS IN WAZIR AKRAR KHAN.  
VARIOUS AFGHAN SOURCES REPORT THAT REGIME OFFICIALS  
INCREASINGLY ARE ALTERING ID CARDS OF 15-17  
YEAR-OLD-YOUTHS TO MAKE THEM ELIGIBLE FOR MILITARY  
SERVICE.

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15. (U) HEALTH DEVELOPMENTS: THE WAR HAS RESULTED IN A DETERIORATION OF HEALTH IN THE COUNTRY. MALARIA IS RESURGENT, CHIEFLY BECAUSE OF A LACK OF ANTI-MOSQUITO SPRAYING AND BECAUSE OF THE MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES. (INFECTED PEOPLE MOVE INTO AREAS WHERE THE INFECTION RATE IS LOW BUT WHERE CARRIER MOSQUITOS ARE PRESENT. MOSQUITOS CARRY THE DISEASE FROM THE REFUGEES TO UNINFECTED HOSTS.) DESTRUCTION/DETERIORATION OF WATER SYSTEMS HAS LED PEOPLE TO RELY MORE ON POLLUTED WATER SOURCES, GREATLY INCREASING THE INCIDENCE OF DISEASES SUCH AS TYPHOID. A SOURCE ATTACHED TO A MEDICAL FACILITY IN KABUL NOTED THAT IN LATE SUMMER, KABUL EXPERIENCED A MINOR HEPATITIS EPIDEMIC. CROWDED LIVING CONDITIONS IN CITIES SUCH AS KABUL HAS INCREASED THE INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AS INFECTED REFUGEES MOVE INTO THE HOMES OF URBAN RELATIVES. DISEASES PREVIOUSLY SEEN PRIMARILY IN RURAL AREAS ARE APPEARING NOW IN URBAN SETTINGS.

16. (U) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

A. POLITICAL PARTY IN NAME ONLY: AN EASTERN BLOC SENIOR DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT THE NEWLY-ESTABLISHED "ISLAMIC"

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RUCJAAA/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//SOJ2//

RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//

RUEABOA/HQ AFOSI ROLLING AFB DC

RUDMNSC/NISC WASHINGTON DC

RUCLAKA/CDR4THPSYOP GP FT BRAGG NC//AFVS-P06-E-SSD//

RUCIAEA/FTD WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//SIR//

RULUIOC/HQ SAC OFFUTT AFB NE//INO//

RUEDBIA/CDR513THMIGP FT MONMOUTH NJ//IAM-IC-D//

RHCGRSB/COMUSARCENT FT MCPHERSON GA//AFRO-DSO//

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RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 4383

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 6197

INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

RUFHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1518

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2037

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

RUENJCS/JCS WASHDC

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SR

RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AR GE

RHFQAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AR GE//INCO

RUDOGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-ION//

RIEOLCA/DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP

RUCLFNA/347 TFW MOODY AFB GA//IN//

RUFNSHH/USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

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RUEOAYB/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CMII//  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 07 OF 09 KARIJL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. AKUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12354: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20,

PARTY, ONE OF SEVERAL PARTIES FORMED BY THE REGIME TO  
COOPERATE IN THE CREATION OF A "COALITION," HAS A  
MEMBERSHIP OF ONLY 31 (COMPARED TO THE PDPA WHICH CLAIMS  
A MEMBERSHIP OF 180,000).

B. SALE OF PASSPORTS: AN INCREASING NUMBER OF PASSPORTS  
ARE BEING SOLD IN KABUL. WHILE THE NUMBER OF PASSPORTS  
BEING SOLD REPORTEDLY EXCEEDS THE NUMBER SOLD A YEAR AGO,  
THE PRICES REMAIN APPROXIMATELY THE SAME, WITH A MINIMUM  
PRICE OF 50,000 AFGHANIS FOR ONE (ROUGHLY 265 U.S.  
DOLLARS). CHILDREN UNDER TEN USUALLY PAY A NOMINAL  
ADDITIONAL FEE. SOME INDIVIDUALS WITH "DIFFICULT" CASES  
PAY CONSIDERABLY MORE. THE BRIBERY PAYMENT IS MADE TO  
THE MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY WHICH MUST VET ALL  
PASSPORT APPLICATIONS. THOSE SEEKING PASSPORTS TEND TO  
BE LARGELY BUSINESSMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, MOST OF WHOM  
GO TO INDIA, AT LEAST INITIALLY.

C. BORDER MEETINGS: THE AMANI HIGH SCHOOL (FORMER  
GERMAN TECHNICAL SCHOOL) IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN HAS BEEN THE  
SITE OF MEETINGS THROUGH MOST OF THE WEEK. THOSE  
ATTENDING THE GATHERINGS REPORTEDLY ARE MULLAHS AND  
TRIBAL FIGURES FROM THE AFGHAN-PAK BORDER AREA, MANY OF  
WHOM BROUGHT THEIR OWN BODYGUARDS WHO JOINED REGIME  
SECURITY FORCES AROUND THE COMPOUND. ONE REPORT  
SUGGESTED THAT THE REGIME WAS ATTEMPTING TO CURRY FAVOR  
WITH MULLAHS AND TRIBAL LEADERS IN ADVANCE OF SERIOUS NEW  
FIGHTING IN PAKTIA AND ELSEWHERE NEAR THE BORDER. (SEE  
PARA 3 FOR REPORTS OF SHOOTING IN THE AREA AT VARIOUS  
POINTS DURING THE GATHERING).

17. (U) MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS:

A. THE SIEGE AT KHOST: SOVIET ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN RA  
OFFENSIVE TO LIFT THE MUJAHIDIN SIEGE OF KHOST APPEARS TO  
SET A PUBLIC TEST FOR THE RA FORCES. IN TRUTH, THE  
STRUGGLE TO LIFT THE SIEGE HAS BEEN UNDERWAY FOR WEEKS,  
LED BY SOVIET FORCES, INCLUDING SPETNAZ UNITS. IF  
REPORTS OF SIGNIFICANT MUJAHIDIN REINFORCEMENTS OF THE

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KHOST AREA ARE EVEN PARTIALLY CORRECT. IT APPEARS THAT MUJAHIDIN INTEND TO MAINTAIN THE SIEGE. THE BATTLE FOR KHOST THUS COULD TURN OUT TO BE A FAR MORE CONVENTIONAL STRUGGLE THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST. DENIAL OF SOVIET AIR SUPERIORITY BECAUSE OF MUJAHIDIN POSSESSION OF SAMs AND WORSENING WEATHER IN THE REGION, PLUS SIGNIFICANT TERRAIN ADVANTAGES ACCRUING TO THE MUJAHIDIN WHO CONTROL THE HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING THE GARDEZ TO KHOST ROAD, AND KHOST ITSELF MAY PRESENT MAJOR TACTICAL PROBLEMS FOR THE LARGER SOVIET AND RA FORCES. MOREOVER, MUJAHIDIN MORALE AND IMPROVED TACTICAL COORDINATION INEVITABLY WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT IMPACT ON THE FIGHTING. WHILE THE MUJAHIDIN ARGUABLY COULD MELT AWAY IN THE FACE OF SUPERIOR SOVIET/RA NUMBERS AND FIREPOWER, AND STILL CLAIM THE MONTH-LONG SIEGE OF KHOST AS A MAJOR POLITICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL VICTORY, IT APPEARS THE MUJAHIDIN MAY MAINTAIN THEIR SIEGE, DESPITE THE LIKELY HIGH CASUALTIES ENTAILED IN SUCH A COURSE. THE OUTCOME OF A PROTRACTED STRUGGLE FOR KHOST COULD TAKE ON A POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE THAT WOULD OUTWEIGH THE CONSIDERABLE MILITARY STAKES INVOLVED.

B. SOVIET BRASS MEET AT TERMEZ?: A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE CLAIMS THAT IN LATE NOVEMBER, SENIOR SOVIET  
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 RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//  
 RUEORDF/DTRAFCIC FT DETRICK MD//IS//  
 RUCJAAA/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//SOJ2//  
 RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//  
 RUEABOA/HQ AFOSI ROLLING AFB CC  
 RUOMNSC/NISC WASHINGTON DC  
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 RULWIOC/HQ SAC OFFUTT AFB NE//INOO//  
 RUEDBIA/CDR51THMIGP FT MONMOUTH NJ//IAM-IC-D//  
 RHCGSRB/COMUSARCENT FT MCPHERSON GA//AFRD-DSO//  
 RHHPBRA/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
 RUCLAKA/CDR8THPSYOPBN FT BRAGG NC  
 RULLAAA/DIA REP SAC OFFUTT AFB NE  
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 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7725  
 RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE 4384  
 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 6198  
 INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE  
 RUHFMT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1519  
 RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2038  
 RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC  
 RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC  
 RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
 RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//P06//SA  
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
 RHFOAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE  
 RHFOAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO  
 RUODGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//  
 RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 08 OF 09 KAHUL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLAND; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR, MR. BRUND; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 1235A: DECL: 14/DEC/93  
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, NCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20,

MILITARY OFFICIALS FROM AFGHANISTAN AND MOSCOW MET AT  
TERMEZ TO DISCUSS THE WAR.

C. SOVIET/RA AIR LOSSES DOWN?: A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC  
SOURCE CLAIMS THAT SOVIET AND RA AIR LOSSES ARE DOWN OVER  
THE LAST SIX TO EIGHT MONTHS. THE SOURCE SPECULATES THAT  
REASONS FOR THE DECLINE ARE IMPROVED FLYING TECHNIQUES  
AND REDUCED FLIGHTS, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS KNOWN TO  
HARBOR SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE TEAMS.

18. (U) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:

A. KARAKUL EXPORTS DECLINE SHARPLY: A SPOKESPERSON FOR  
THE AFGHAN KARAKUL PROMOTION INSTITUTE, SPEAKING IN THE  
KABUL MEDIA DECEMBER 20, ADMITTED THAT ONLY 440,000  
KARAKUL PELTS WILL BE EXPORTED IN 1987, DOWN FROM 1.16  
MILLION PELTS EXPORTED IN 1978 AND 800,000 PELTS IN  
1986. THE SPOKESPERSON PLACED BLAME FOR THE NEARLY FIFTY  
PERCENT DROP ON THE RISE IN MEAT PRICES AND THE  
SLAUGHTERING OF KARAKUL SHEEP BY "EXTREMISTS." KARAKUL  
TRADITIONALLY HAS BEEN A KEY FOREIGN CURRENCY EARNER.  
THE SHARP DECLINE IN KARAKUL EXPORTS PARALLELS THE  
DECLINE OF RAISIN EXPORTS, ANOTHER PRINCIPAL FOREIGN  
CURRENCY EARNER. THE FALL OF THE REGIME'S NON-HARTER  
EXPORTS MAY EXPLAIN THE RAPID DECLINE OF THE AFGHANI,  
WHICH FELL TO AN UNPRECEDENTED 189 PER ONE U.S. DOLLAR  
THIS WEEK. ALSO DURING THE WEEK, A DIPLOMAT OBSERVED  
SOVIET ADVISORS WORKING IN AREAS OF THE RA FOREIGN TRADE  
BANK WHERE SOVIETS HAVE NEVER BEEN SEEN BEFORE.

d. LIVESTOCK HEALTH: A VETERINARY EXPERT RELIEVES THAT  
INADEQUATE LIVESTOCK EXAMINATIONS AND INNOCULATION, DUE  
LARGELY TO WAR CONDITIONS, HAVE RESULTED IN THE SPREAD OF  
LIVESTOCK DISEASES SUCH AS RINDERPEST AND HOOF AND MOUTH  
DISEASE. ACCORDING TO THE EXPERT, THESE DISEASES HAVE  
BECOME A SERIOUS THREAT TO AFGHAN LIVESTOCK. SHOULD SUCH  
DISEASES BECOME WIDESPREAD IN AFGHANISTAN, THEY COULD  
POSE A THREAT EVEN TO LIVESTOCK IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN  
EUROPE. AFGHANISTAN IS VIEWED AS A BRIDGE AREA FOR THE

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TRANSMISSION OF DISEASE FROM THE SUB-CONTINENT TO THE WEST. COMPLICATING THE PROBLEM FURTHER IS THE LARGE AMOUNT OF NOMADIC HERDING IN AFGHANISTAN.

C. FOOD CONVOY REACHES KABUL: AN AFGHAN SOURCE REPORTS THAT A LARGE FOOD CONVOY FROM HAIRATAN (USSR), ARRIVED IN KABUL DECEMBER 16.

19. (U) SOVIETIZATION:

A. STATE SECURITY OFFICERS RETURN FROM USSR: FIFTY MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY OFFICERS WHO HAD COMPLETED TRAINING IN THE SOVIET UNION RETURNED TO AFGHANISTAN IN LATE NOVEMBER. THIRTY WERE ASSIGNED TO KABUL. 19 TO THE PROVINCES AND ONE, WHO REPORTEDLY DISAPPEARED AFTER RETURNING TO KABUL, WAS BRANDED A TRAITOR.

B. MULLAHS TO THE SOVIET UNION: A GROUP OF 50-60 AFGHAN MULLAHS WERE FLOWN TO THE SOVIET UNION, DECEMBER 17.

20. (U) REGIME MEDIA:

A. MAIMANA ATTACK: KABUL MEDIA REPORTED, DECEMBER 14, THAT A MUJAHIDIN ATTACK ON MAIMANA, FARVAR PROVINCIAL BT

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 RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//  
 RUECRDF/DIAFMIC FT DETRICK ME//IS//  
 RUJAJAA/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//SOJ2//  
 RUWSAAA/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//  
 RUEAROA/HQ AFOSI HOLLING AFB CC  
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 RUWIOIC/HQ SAC OFFUTT AFB NE//INO//  
 RUECHIA/CDR513THMIGP FT MCNMOUTH NJ//IAM-IC-E//  
 RHCGSRB/COMUSARCENT FT MC PHERSON GA//AFRO-DSO//  
 RHMFBRAC/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI  
 RUCLAKA/CDR8THPSYOPHN FT BRAGG NC  
 RUWAAA/DIA REP SAC OFFUTT AFB NE  
 RUEALGX/SAFE  
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 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
 TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7726  
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 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE 6199  
 INFO RUEHUU/AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE  
 RUFGKTT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 1520  
 RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2039  
 RUEHJCS/DIA WASHDC  
 RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC  
 RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
 RUCLAKA/FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SR  
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUFDAAA/CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE  
 RHFGAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE  
 RHFOAAA/HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO  
 RUODOGHA/USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//  
 RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-10M//  
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 09 0909 KARUL 02348

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLANDS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAR. MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

E.O. 12356: DECL: 14/DEC/93

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PFUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASSEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (DECEMBER 14-20,

CENTER, KILLED 10 AND WOUNDED 34 OTHERS. (SEE PARA A)

B. MERAT BOMB INCIDENT: KABUL MEDIA REPORTED DECEMBER  
20 THAT A BOMB IN THE SHAH-I-NAU DISTRICT OF MERAT AT  
1430, DECEMBER 17, KILLED ONE PERSON AND INJURED EIGHT.

C. DARI PRESS CRITICAL OF REGIME PROJECTS:  
HAQIQAT-E-INOILAB-E-SAUR, A DARI LANGUAGE DAILY, RECENTLY  
HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF REGIME ORGANIZATIONS AND PROJECTS.  
AMONG RECENT TARGETS HAVE BEEN THE STATE MONOPOLY THAT  
DISTRIBUTES KEROSENE AND OTHER PETROLEUM PRODUCTS; THE  
REGIME ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBLE FOR MALARIA ERADICATION;  
STORES SELLING PRODUCE FROM AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES;  
SPECIAL STORES FOR THE REGIME'S MILITARY AND THEIR  
FAMILIES; THE KABUL CITY COUNCIL AND THE WATAN CHILDREN'S  
NURSERY. THE LAST FACILITY, FORMERLY UNDER THE DIRECTION  
OF THE WIFE OF OUSTED PARTY AND STATE LEADER BARRAK  
KARMAL, IS ONE OF THE SHOWPIECES ON THE STANDARD TOUR  
LAID ON BY THE REGIME FOR VISITING VIP'S AND  
JOURNALISTS. THE ARTICLE ON THE NURSERY REVEALED THAT  
THE CHILDREN WERE POORLY CLOTHED, THE CAFETERIA HAD NO  
WINDOWS, THE KITCHEN WAS UNSANITARY, THE CHILDREN HAVE  
FEW ACTIVITIES AND ARE OFTEN WITHOUT SUPERVISION, AND  
MANY CHILDREN OF OFFICIALS ARE CARED FOR AT THE  
INSTITUTION EVEN THOUGH IT IS INTENDED TO ADDRESS THE  
NEEDS OF ORPHANS. IN AN INTERVIEW, THE ADMINISTRATOR  
ADMITTED PROBLEMS BUT BLAMED THEM ON PREVIOUS  
ADMINISTRATIONS AND "RECENT DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF  
MINISTERS." THE CRITICISMS HAVE NOT BEEN REPEATED IN THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEDIA OR IN KABUL BROADCAST MEDIA.

21. (U) MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. GLASSMAN

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